

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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OIC-02 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00
OC-06 USIA-15 COME-00 BIB-01 IO-13 SIG-02 MMO-04 /112 R

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APPROVED BY EB/TD:JJO'NEILL, JR.

USIA:IOP:P:GHAWKINS

L:UNA:RFSTOWE

ARA:AND:C:DWCOX

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 002318

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU BROADCASTING-SATELLITE CONFERENCE, GENEVA,
JAN-FEB 1977.

STATE-USIA MESSAGE

1. POSTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT A CONFERENCE TO PLAN THE USE
OF THE 12 GIGAHERTZ (GHZ) BAND BY THE BROADCASTING-SATELLITE
SERVICE WILL BE HELD FOR FIVE WEEKS AT GENEVA BEGINNING
10 JAN 1977. PURPOSE OF THIS TELEGRAM IS TO MAKE POSTS
AWARE OF CONFERENCE IN EVENT THEY RECEIVE INQUIRIES.

2. BACKGROUND

A. ON AVERAGE OF EVERY TWO TO THREE YEARS, WORLDWIDE
CONFERENCES ON SPECIALIZED AREAS OF RADIOCOMMUNICATION ARE
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CONVENED UNDER AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION
UNION (FRENCH: UNION INTERNATIONALE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS;
SPANISH: UNION INTERNACIONAL DE TELECOMUNICACIONES). THE
ITU IS THE UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
PRESENTLY HAS 152 MEMBERS.

B. A WORLDWIDE ITU RADIO CONFERENCE IS COMMONLY REFERRED

TO IN ENGLISH AS A "WARC", WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO
CONFERENCE (FRENCH: CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATIVE MONDIALE DES

RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS; SPANISH: CONFERENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA
MUNDIAL DE RADIOCOMUNICACIONES). THE BROADCASTING-
SATELLITE WARC SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH WARC-1979, A
FAR MORE INVOLVED CONFERENCE THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN
TWENTY YEARS, WILL BE CHARGED WITH THE GENERAL REVISION OF
THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS. POSTS WILL BE HEARING MORE
ABOUT WARC-1979 IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

C. THE PRESENT BROADCASTING-SATELLITE CONFERENCE (FRENCH:
CONFERENCE DE RADIODIFFUSION PAR SATELLITE; SPANISH:
CONFERENCIA DE RADIODIFUSION POR SATELITE) WILL BE HELD
FOR THE PLANNING OF THE BROADCASTING-SATELLITE SERVICE
IN THE 12 GHZ FREQUENCY BAND.

3. ISSUES. A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL ISSUES TOO COMPLEX FOR
TREATMENT HERE ARE EXPECTED TO BE DEALT WITH AT THE
CONFERENCE. TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES ARE MENTIONED BELOW:

A. "A PRIORI" VS. "EVOLUTIONARY" PLANNING. THE MOST
IMPORTANT ISSUE, FROM THE U.S. VIEWPOINT AT LEAST, IS
WHETHER AN "A PRIORI" APPROACH OR AN EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH
IS TO BE FOLLOWED IN ITU REGION 2 FOR THE PLANNING OF THE
BROADCASTING-SATELLITE SERVICE. BY "A PRIORI" PLANNING
IS MEANT THE ASSIGNMENT, AT THE CONFERENCE AND WELL IN
ADVANCE OF ACTUAL USE, OF FREQUENCY CHANNELS AND ORBITAL
SLOTS TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING.
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THE EUROPEANS INCLUDING THE USSR FAVOR A WORLDWIDE "A
PRIORI" PLAN. THE UNITED STATES, ON THE OTHER HAND,
FAVORS AN EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH TO PLANNING, AT LEAST IN
REGION 2, BELIEVING THAT SUCH AN APPROACH, AT THIS TIME,
WILL LEAD TO FAR MORE EFFICIENT USE OF THE 12 GHZ FREQUENCY
BAND. REGARDING THE TERM "REGION 2", THE EARTH IS
DIVIDED FOR ITU PURPOSES INTO THREE REGIONS, REGION 1
CORRESPONDING TO AFRICA, EUROPE, USSR, MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC; REGION 2 TO THE AMERICAS AND GREENLAND; REGION
3 TO THE REAMINDER OF ASIA AND AUSTRALIA.

B. COLOMBIAN SOVEREIGNTY CLAIM OVER GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT.
INDICATIONS ARE THAT COLOMBIA WILL ASSERT, AT THE

CONFERENCE, THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE EQUATORIAL STATE
SITUATED UNDER A SEGMENT OF THE GEOSTATIONARY ARC ENJOYS
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THAT SEGMENT. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT
AGREE WITH THIS ASSERTION; IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE THAT THE
ITU, AS A TECHNICAL BODY, IS NOT AN APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR

CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE.

4. POST GUIDANCE. GIVEN COMPLEXITY OF ISSUES TO BE RAISED
DEPARTMENT/USIA DO NOT ENVISAGE THAT POSTS WILL INITIATE
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CONVERSATIONS RELATING TO CONFERENCE. IN ANY EVENT, LOW
PROFILE IS THE DESIRED STANCE, AND FOLLOWING GUIDANCE
INTENDED FOR USE, AT DISCRETION OF POST, IF CONFERENCE-
RELATED ISSUES RAISED BY OTHERS.

A. POSTS MAY SAY THAT U.S. WILL NOT PRESS, AT CONFERENCE,
FOR EXTENSION OF EVOLUTIONARY PLANNING TO ITU REGION 1
AND 3, AND IN TURN EXPECTS THAT A PRIORI APPROACH WILL
NOT BE IMPOSED ON REGION 2.

B. POSTS SHOULD CORRECT ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION, IT IT IS
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ENCOUNTERED, THAT EVOLUTIONARY PLANNING REPRESENTS "FIRST
COME, FIRST SERVED" APPROACH IN DISGUISE. EVOLUTIONARY
CONCEPT AS ENVISAGED BY U.S. WOULD, BY BEING VASTLY MORE
EFFICIENT, PROVIDE GREATER SPECTRUM USE BY ALL USERS, AND
WOULD MOREOVER INCLUDE PROVISIONS THAT WOULD PROTECT THE
RIGHTS OF LATE ENTRIES.

C. IF RAISED BY OTHERS, POSTS SHOULD LIMIT REMARKS ON

COLOMBIAN SOVEREIGNTY CLAIM TO BARE-BONES STATEMENTS BASED
ON SUBPARA 3B.

D. POSTS SHOULD REFER TECHNICAL INQUIRIES OR INQUIRIES
INVOLVING LEGAL OR POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, TO DEPARTMENT,
WITH US MISSION GENEVA AS INFO ADDRESSEE; SLUG SUCH
MESSAGES "DEPT FOR EB/TD, GENEVA FOR TELATT". MESSAGES
INVOLVING MEDIA OR PUBLIC AFFAIRS SHOULD IN ADDITION BE
SLUGGED "USIA FOR IOP/P."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, RADIO BROADCASTING, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
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Expiration:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770175/aaaacnhn.tel
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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